GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3061
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2007
AGREEMENT WITH CHINA
Chakraborty Shri Ajay;Ponnuswamy Shri E.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have agreed to take steps towards securing original trading agreements between the two countries;

(b) if so, whether joint study group headed by Finance Ministry including top representatives from Indian industry has taken positive steps towards initiatives of Free Trade Agreement with China;

(c) whether any survey of some companies is involved in trade with China; and

(d) if so, whether any agreement to improve trade between India and China has been signed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) An India-China Joint Study Group was set up in pursuance to the declaration signed during the visit of the Prime Minister to Beijing in June 2003. The Joint Study Group has recommended that the two Governments appoint a Joint Task Force to study in detail the feasibility of, and the benefits that may derive from the possible China-India Regional Trading Arrangement and also give its recommendations regarding its content. In pursuance to the recommendations of the JSG a Joint Task Force has been set up. Three meetings of this Joint Task Force have taken place so far.

(c) & (d) The Government has not done any survey of companies. However,a number of agreements/MOUs in the field of economy/Trade have been signed between India and China in the last few years.